

NURSE JANE TOPPAN A MARVEL TO JAILERS.

New England Spinster, Accused of Murdering Twelve Persons, Collapses when Arraigned, but On Return to Her Cell She Quickly Regains Her Smiling Composure.

In view of the many remarkable features in Massachusetts's most remarkable poisoning story, the case of Jane Toppan, The Evening World has sent one of the most capable and experienced members of its staff to Barnstable to see the accused woman and investigate her history.

She heard the charge read against her of causing the death of Mrs. Mary Gibbs, when arraigned in court to-day. The proceedings were brief, but she was on the verge of collapse as the Judge granted a postponement for a week.

BY ZONA GALE.

BARNSTABLE, Mass., Nov. 8.—To look at Jane Toppan, the middle-aged woman confined in the little brick jail at Barnstable, charged with the murder of twelve persons, it is impossible to see any connection between her and the crime.

She is forty-two years old. She weighs 165 or 170 pounds. She has black eyes that meet yours and talk while she talks. She has a good-natured mouth and a very ready smile, and as she talks her head nods frequently and frequently, to emphasize what she says.

She has hands that have worked, she seems to have been concerned in her life with darning and bread-making and the dusting of books.

In a comfortable cell, looking south over yellow trees, Jane Toppan sits all day, composed and tranquil—even ordered.

Not a Murdrous Type.

You want to say to her, "And did you murder all of them?" only to hear her polite negative.

You could by no possibility imagine this plump, comely person a sister to the Borrias.

Ask her about putting up jelly—she says she never.

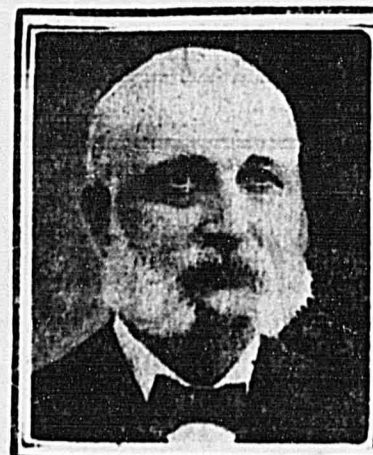
Ask her about her taste in fancy poisons—never!

And yet there is that list of twelve men and women in the State's possession, backed by such evidence as the State collects before it makes any such list—a list in process of collection since last August, and which includes foster-sister, housekeeper, most intimate friend, business associate, aunt by adoption and her whose guest she was when the death of which she is suspected occurred.

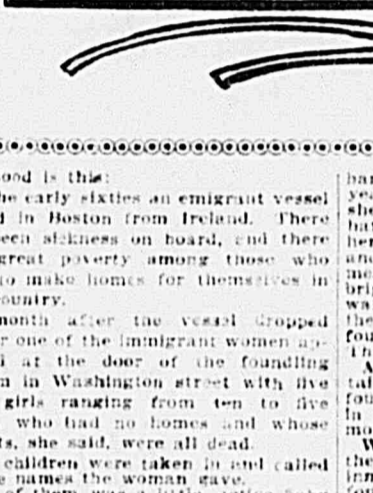
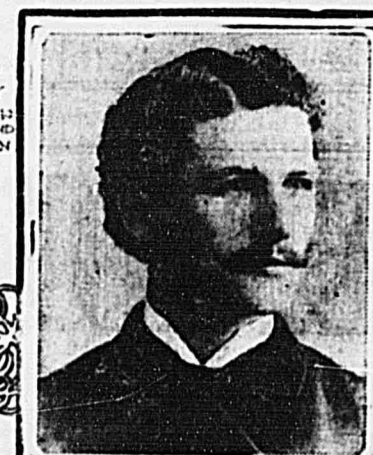
CHAPTER I.

The story of Jane Toppan—foundling, schoolgirl, church-worker, theological missionary, nurse, trained nurse and alleged murderer—has no beginning.

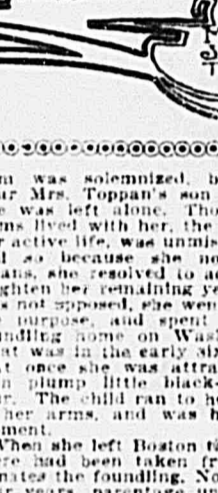
Of the first four years of the life of Mrs. Kelly nothing is known, and nothing was known at the time of her adoption. A report that her father lived in Boston is denied by O. A. Brigham, son-in-law of Mrs. Toppan, who adopted her. All that is known of her early



OF BRIGHAM AT WOODS HOUSE MISS TOPPAN LIVED.



MRS. GIBBS, FOSTER SISTER OF TOPPAN, WHO WAS CHARGED WITH POISONING.



MRS. TOPPAN WHO ADOPTED THE ACCUSED NURSE.



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childhood is this:

In the early stages an emigrant vessel landed in Boston from Ireland. There had been sickness on board, and there was great poverty among those who tried to make homes for themselves in this country.

A month after the vessel dropped anchor one of the immigrant women appeared at the door of the foundling asylum in Washington street with five little girls ranging from ten to five years, who had no homes and whose parents, she said, were all dead.

The children were taken in and called by the names the woman gave.

One of them was a little, active baby of four years, black-eyed, round faced, with a head wreathed in black curls. She had thrived on poverty, and she won the great heart of the institution in two days, because she was the merriest little mite that had ever come within the sad walls.

She was entered on the books as "Nora Kelly," aged four years, parentage unknown.

CHAPTER II.

In an unfrequented quarter of Lowell lived, back in the forties, a rough, seafaring man whom few people in Lowell knew. His wife was an apple-cheeked woman, far younger than he, who, during her husband's long voyages, placed out her scanty household allowance at the looms of the Lawrence Hosiery Mills.

There were a little daughter and a son at home, and for the son his mother was so ambitious that she worked far beyond her strength and worked day in and day out even after her son was old enough to go to sea with his father.

He was grateful for this, and when his father, then a captain, died he took control of the ship, sailed her to San Francisco, and on his return the China trade, determined to find his fortune.

In four years he was a rich man. Mrs. Toppan came home and took his mother's place, and she was a rich man. Mrs. Toppan came home and took his mother's place, and she was a rich man.

CHAPTER III.

Nora Kelly was legally adopted, and became Jane Toppan, and from the moment she was set down in the hall, frightened but smiling, she became the idol of the house.

If she were the light of the house, she was new life to Mrs. Toppan. The old lady, grown childish, lived only when the child was in her arms.

Hardly less dear was she to Mrs. Brigham, her foster sister. The actual care of the child devolved chiefly upon her. She it was who looked after Jane's clothes, mended and cut over, and purchased and sewed for her; she it was to whom fell the early training of the child in books and domestic manners. She was as dear to Mr. Brigham as to his wife.

When she died, it was that when Mrs. Toppan died the little girl continued as a matter of course to live with the Brighams.

In church work and home duties at the Brighams Jane Toppan's life was passed until 1891, when she left Lowell.

CHAPTER IV.

In 1891 Jane Toppan suddenly announced her decision to go to Boston and study to be a trained nurse.

So she went, followed by good wishes, and entered the training-school of the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, where she remained two years. Frequently in that time she returned to Lowell for visits, and as a student she was well known to the Brighams, with whom friendly relations were maintained. At the end of two years she left the hospital.

Jane Toppan was not graduated from the hospital. She entered Jan. 2, 1893, and left Jan. 2, 1894. Mrs. M. B. Brown, of No. 18 Mount Vernon street, Boston, who was then Superintendent of Nurses, says that Miss Toppan was dismissed from the institution, but for what cause she will not state.

About that time it became known that Jane Toppan had a sister, Ellen Kelly, a seamstress. She had been one of the Irish emigrants of whose existence Mrs.

Toppan had not been told, and the sisters heard of each other through the mother of the foundling home.

Ellen Kelly was then an inmate of the South Boston Hospital. Shortly after Miss Toppan left the hospital her sister was removed to the Asylum Farm, and she is now in the Medical Asylum, where she has been since 1893.

CHAPTER V.

Of a year Miss Toppan lived at the mess house, and every one at the mess house liked her. She was Mrs. Connors's invaluable aid, and she got to know the institution as well as the matron.

Mrs. Connors was wont to say that without Miss Toppan's ready laugh and her look at the bright side of things the ordinary would not be the same place. Mrs. Connors told her one day, laughingly, that she was getting to be the real matron, and Miss Toppan laughed at the idea.

When Mrs. Connors fell ill, she more than ever realized how invaluable Miss Toppan was. Dr. Herbert B. McIntire, of Cambridge, was called and Miss Toppan was, upon his arrival, already installed as nurse. Mrs. Connors was treated for localized peritonitis, but after and nozing symptoms set in. The patient became weak, affected with nausea, and finally unconscious, and she died.

CHAPTER VI.

Miss Toppan's history as a nurse probably contains many cases of patients nursed by her to recovery. With there the State is not now concerned, but it is concerned with twelve cases cared for by her up to last September, and a brilliant summer case was one.

MRS. MARY M'NEAR, sixty-nine years old, of Watertown, Dr. Wesselsboelt was sent for, pronounced

it a case of pneumonia, and sent for Miss Toppan. One day when Mrs. M'Near was near recovery, a guest with whom she had been laughing and chatting left her and Mrs. Toppan went in to give her her medicine. When she came from the room she told us that as soon as she had given her the medicine a quiver passed over the convalescent's body and she fell back unconscious. She died the next day, and her death certificate gave appendix as the cause.

Miss Toppan went away and returned for the funeral. Mrs. Charles Shaw, of Boston, says that in Miss Toppan's absence it was discovered that all Mrs. M'Near's best clothing and the money she had in her pocket were missing.

When the matter was mentioned to her, Miss Toppan, Mrs. Shaw says, became angry and asked if they suspected her. Dr. Wesselsboelt says the suspicion against Miss Toppan in this case are preposterous.

W. H. INGRAHAM, eighty-one, of Watertown, Dr. Wesselsboelt was again the physician. Four days before Mr. Ingraham died the doctor brought Miss Toppan to the house as nurse. His illness had been of months' duration. Miss Toppan came on Tuesday, and Mr. Ingraham died on Friday. The certificate gave the cause of death as "heart failure, accompanied by acute indigestion, preceding but not causing death. Duration, four days."

The only living relative of Mr. Ingraham lives in Newton, and when asked if he suspected anything at the time, replied:

"I refuse to say one word."

MRS. EDNA BANNISTER—Early in the spring of the year Mrs. Edna Bannister, sister of Mrs. Brigham, came on from Vermont to attend the Buffalo Exposition. She was a guest at the Brighams, and suffered from heart disease, and was not strong. Mrs. Toppan came over from Boston for a week's vacation, and stayed on taking full charge of Mrs. Bannister, saying she would soon, with sufficient nursing, be well again.

Two days afterward Mrs. Bannister was taken with violent nausea, she became unconscious, and died.

IT—LUDLOW, CHURCHILL, of Cambridge, became seriously ill, and his son sent for Miss Toppan to nurse him. The day after she arrived Mr. Churchill fell to the floor of the bathroom unconscious. His son ran to him and took his head in his lap. He died after an hour of unconsciousness.

MRS. FLORENCE CALKINS—The housekeeper to the Brighams was taken ill. Mrs. Brigham sent for Miss Toppan. A week after her arrival Mrs. Calkins was taken with nausea, she became unconscious, and died.

Miss Grace Calkins, now housekeeper for Mr. Brigham, said to an Evening World reporter:

"I don't know what to think. I can think of things now, of course, that I didn't pay any attention to then. Now I am not sure enough of her to say she didn't do it. I don't know."

MRS. A. P. DAVIS—Sept. 1 she went to the summer home of A. P. Davis in Cautumet, as a guest. When, suddenly, she arrived, Davis became ill. It was regarded as particularly fortunate that Miss Toppan was there to nurse her. She died in a few days, after violent nausea and unconsciousness.

VIII.—MRS. A. P. DAVIS—She died a few days after her husband's same symptoms.

IX.—MRS. MARY GORDON, of Chicago, daughter of the Davises, died a few days later with the same symptoms.

MRS. QIBBS, another daughter of the Davises.

Two other deaths are how on the State's list.

A GIRL'S TALE.

With a Reason for Misleading the Father.

"We have tried for a long time to persuade papa that perhaps his diet had something to do with his ill-feelings; he used to laugh good naturedly and say, 'Why, girls, I've been used to eating fatty drinking ever since I was a boy; I was trained that way. No, I fear some change has taken place in my body and I shall never be well again.'"

"We often suggested that he leave off coffee and tobacco, but he urged that they did not hurt him and were a comfort; so we acquiesced, until one day sister insisted on making the coffee ½ Postum Food Coffee, and it was made that way for about 10 days, until papa seemed brighter and complained less of his head."

"That's it!" sister exclaimed, and from that day she served Postum alone without any coffee."

"Papa never detected the difference, for we have learned the secret of making Postum to give it a prime, crisp flavor; it is easy enough; just allow it to continue boiling 15 minutes, counting from the time boiling commences, not from the time it is placed on the stove."

"Well, the dear old soul seemed day by day to take on new life; he began to stay at the office later and was full of fun when he came home in the evening."

"The proof is plain enough that morning after morning, year in and year out, we had been feeding our dear old governor with coffee that is really a strong liquid drug, and it was gradually but surely killing him. When it was partially removed, he got a little better, and when it was entirely removed and the pure food coffee Postum served his recovery was rapid."

"We don't fool papa on many things, but we just had to this time, for he was steadily and surely leaving us, and we love the dear old man too much to leave anything undone that will keep him here."

"It is woman's privilege, you know, to tease, cajole and beg, then 'fessie' if the dear old head-headed things won't listen to reason."

Knocked Down by a Frightened Man, She Clung to the Child.

The density and volume of the smoke from a fire in the engine room of the tenement at No. 61 First street this afternoon caused considerable excitement among the tenants.

When the tenants saw the smoke rolling out of the windows they rushed for the street. Mrs. Ray Sorin was hurrying down stairs with her baby in her arms, when a man ran against her at the head of the first flight. She fell and rolled all the way down the steps with the child in her arms.

The man ran down three steps at a time and leaped over the prostrate forms of Mrs. Sorin and her baby. She picked the child up and ran out safely. The man disappeared.

Justice Landon to Retire.

ALBANY, Nov. 8.—Justice Judson S. Landon will retire from the Court of Appeals Bench on Jan. 1, having reached seventy years of age, the limit of age for judicial service in this State.

Miss Stone Sends News.

MISSIONARY WRITES ANOTHER LETTER GIVING FACTS ABOUT BRIGANDS.

SOFLA, Nov. 8.—A messenger has brought a letter from Miss Stone, written in English. All the previous communications from Miss Stone have been in Bulgarian. The letter says she is still well and gives valuable information about her captors and other circumstances, which Miss Stone was debarred from sending in Bulgarian.

Consul-General Dickinson in his reply to Miss Stone's letter received a few days ago, urged the brigands to still further reduce their demands and accept the amount subscribed, in view of the determination of the Government not to contribute toward the ransom and the impossibility of collecting further subscriptions.

It is believed the brigands will agree to this, as they are now beginning to feel hard pressed and want money for current expenses, such as the bribery of officials, peasants and others.

The letter insists that the surrender of the prisoners must precede, or be simultaneous with the payment, but leaves the question of the place open.

The Government, last night caused the arrest of a man who was visiting United States Consul-General Dickinson, and searched him, presumably thinking he was an emissary of the brigands, and expecting to seize a communication from or to Miss Ellen M. Stone, the

American missionary.

The action of the authorities was seemingly a deliberate attempt to frighten delegates who might visit Mr. Dickinson, and thus prevent negotiations from taking place in Bulgarian territory. The attitude of the authorities hampers the Consul-General, as the brigands refuse to treat in Turkey.

ROLLED WITH BABY DOWN THE STAIRS.

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Housecleaning

in Our Shirt Department.

Here is an opportunity to buy men's fancy colored shirts that is not likely to present itself again in many a day.

We are cleaning house in our shirt department—that is, we have gathered together all broken lots, and all shirts that are slightly shopworn and, irrespective of former price, they will be sold at

63c. each.

All told there are about 1,700 shirts, ranging in price from \$1 to \$3. They all go at the same price.

STORE OPEN SATURDAY UNTIL 9 P. M.

WM. VOGEL & SON,

BROADWAY. HOUSTON ST.

CANDY

"Shows show which way the wind blows." Crowds show the way to the most popular candy establishment in New York.

CHOCOLATE EGGS—In lemon, orange, maple, coffee, peppermint and wintergreen. There are windows on Broadway where similar goods are displayed, and the dealer readily adds fifty cents per pound. To such people ours are a revelation, and they wonder how we can sell them this FRIDAY only.

CHOCOLATE EGYPTIAN CARAMELS—One inch squares, made of rich cream, Baker's chocolate and the very best butter. An excellent candy and a general favorite. SATURDAY.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

BUTTER PEANUT BUTTER—Made as it should be: thin and crisp; 20th century style.

ASSORTED FRUIT AND NUT CHOCOLATES—A score of carefully selected chocolate-covered sweets.

CANDIED MYRTLE FIGS—A delicious marmalade, packed in fancy bramble-shaped glass boxes with wax covers. The candy or the box alone is well worth more than we ask for the two. While they last we will sell them this Friday and Saturday.

HIGH-GRADE CHOCOLATES AND BONBONS OR ALL CHOCOLATES—When we say high grade we do so without fear of contradiction. Exclusive confectioners rightly ask 10c. to 60c. per pound; ours are.

Loft

54 BARCLAY ST. COR. WEST BWAY.
BRANCH AT 29 CORTLAND ST. COR. CHURCH

JAMES MEANS'

OR MEN

\$2.50 SHOE

Known and approved by the Public for 23 Years. The most comfortable and best-appearing shoe for the money. Made in a variety of styles and leathers.

Sold by Leading Retailers.
Morse & Rogers, of New York, Wholesale Distributors.

CASPERFELD

—&—

CLEVELAND

144 BOWERY,

"Bowery Savings Bank Block,"

Bot. Grand and Broome Sts., north of Grand St. Station, west side of street.

The following special again forcibly illustrates how competitors' prices are halved. An immense outlet and small expense are bound to tell.

Ladies' Watch, \$10
Solid gold, \$10
American w.r.s., cases made by an American watch company, or p.p.c., \$10.

Advertised as a valuable bargain by others at \$20.00.

Solid 14 and 18 karat gold seamless Wedding Rings our specialty. Prices \$2.50 to \$15. Quality guaranteed. No extra charge for lettering.

Open Evenings Till 7:30 Saturday Till 10. Send for illustrated circular and bargains. Mail orders receive prompt attention.

S.N. WOOD & CO.,

Wholesale Mfrs of Dependable Clothing.

740-742 Broadway
(Just South of Astor Place.)

The Blyn Shoe

Don't be a cart horse. Just as easy to be a thoroughbred. It's not a question of money—simply "knowing how." Let us garb you in one of our straight-cut single-breasted, or our two-button double-breasted sack suits at \$15.00; fabrics and style, of course, right up to date. We'll guarantee to turn you out as thorough, in every sense, as any tailor can, at \$30.00 or \$35.00. We are doing it every minute.

LAMBERT

Trade Mark.

Modern Tailor of Clothes Ready-to-Wear and MEN'S OUTFITTER.

39 and 41 Cortlandt Street, BETWEEN 6TH & 9TH AVE. "H" STATIONS. Also at New Haven, Conn.

Published official figures of the American News Company prove conclusively that the daily circulation of 'The World' in New York City is tens of thousands greater than that of any other paper.

Good, substantial homes are to be found by bright seekers through Sunday World Want.

EXPLOSION

MAIMS TWO.

Panic on Old Dominion Wharf as 100 Boxes of Percussion Caps Blow Up.

Two men were seriously injured and a hundred longshoremen panicked when the explosion of one hundred boxes of percussion caps at 1:30 clock this afternoon on the Old Dominion Pier at the foot of Beach street, north river.

Longshoreman John Doyle, of No. 36 Beach street, was unloading the boxes when a truck and caught the full force of the explosion. The fulminate and metal rims of the caps were driven with terrible force into his face and body.

There is little chance for his survival.

August McKee, driver of the truck, was standing among the boxes, handing them to Doyle. In some way he escaped bodily injuries, but his left leg and arm were torn by the metal caps and he was by the exploding fulminate.

The percussion caps, which are tiny metal rims, charged with fulminate, and used to explode other caps, are packed in wooden boxes, a foot long by six inches wide and six inches high. They had been sent from the New Haven Railroad to the Old Dominion pier for

\$100,000 MAUSOLEUM FOR GARRET A. HOBART.

Widow of Late Vice-President Is Erecting Fitting Resting Place for Her Husband's Body.

Mrs. Garrett A. Hobart, widow of the late Vice-President, is erecting a \$100,000 mausoleum to receive her husband's body at Cedar Lawn Cemetery, near Patterson, N. J.

The walls of the tomb are of granite blocks, so massive that specially constructed trucks are necessary for their transportation to the cemetery. The material of the exterior will be rough granite. The interior of the tomb will be finished in white marble.

Two massive bronze doors will close the tomb. At the far end of the mortuary chamber two sarcophagi of marble will be constructed, one for Mrs. Hobart and the other for her wife.

Catacombs in the walls will afford burial places for other members of the family.

The dimensions of the mausoleum are 21 feet width by 25 feet length and 22 feet height. It crowns the brow of a knoll which forms the Hobart burial plot in Cedar Lawn. The architecture is in a style of the severest simplicity. The mausoleum is already partly constructed. It will not be finished until spring, and then Mr. Hobart's body will be removed to the fitting tomb from the unmarked grave in which it now lies in the family burial plot.

NO PAY FOR MR. HENNESSY.

Court Overrules His Claim for Attorneys' Fees in Prosecution of Kennedy.

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court to-day handed down a decision reversing an order of the lower court in the proceeding brought by Forbes J. Hennessy to secure remuneration for his services as special counsel in the trial of Dr. Samuel J. Kennedy. Mr. Hennessy was retained by the District Attorney, and compensation was fixed at \$2,500, which the Comptroller refused to pay.

The Appellate Division now sustains the Comptroller.

"PROCLAIM THROUGHOUT THE LAND" with Sunday World Wants.

The Three-Time Rate speaks to more than 3,000,000 people three times.

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